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Law School Hangs in Limbo

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Law school hangs in limbo

By Susan Forste
ids Staff Writer

After a semester of controversy, the I.U. School of Law remains in limbo concerning relations between the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses. The matter will not be settled until a new dean is appointed to replace Bloomington Dean Douglass G. Boshkoff, who will retire in January.

A committee of special consultants appointed by I.U. President John W. Ryan to study relations between the two schools submitted its recommendations to Ryan in November. At a University Faculty Council meeting Dec. 9, Ryan said the main function of the report is to "preserve organizational stability" until a new dean is chosen, and that he

will not make any policy changes until then.

The committee recommended that the two law schools continue to operate from separate locations with separate faculties and deans. Newspapers had reported in September that the Bloomington school might be closed or that one dean might be appointed to head both schools.

The committee also recommended that the schools be encouraged to keep law students on both campuses better informed about programs and courses available on each campus and that the Board of Visitors of both schools keep the University informed of attitudes toward the two schools within the legal community.

Boshkoff said he is pleased with the recommendations, but that there never

was any real trouble between the schools. "As far as the schools are concerned, there is no bad blood," he said.

Another of the semester's law school controversies concerned the possibility of building a legal research center in Indianapolis that might absorb parts of both schools' libraries. "I've never known anything about it, and I still don't," Boshkoff said.

The most recent of the law school's problems, according to newspaper articles, is a petition circulating among law faculty in Indianapolis calling for the removal of Dean William F. Harvey of the Indianapolis law school. But both Ryan and Glenn W. Irwin, Vice President of I.U. Purdue University-Indianapolis, have said they are not aware of such a petition.